

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior listings of claims in the application.

Listing Of Claims:

Claim 1. (currently amended): A print producing method of producing a print that is made of a printing medium on which ink is applied, said method comprising the steps of:

applying ink to the printing medium by means of ink applying means while scanning the ink applying means relatively to the printing medium;

applying a liquid for changing a degree of gloss by means of liquid applying means ~~to an area~~ on the printing medium to which the ink has been applied, while scanning the liquid applying means relatively to the printing medium; and

setting at least one of a liquid applying condition relating to an applying time difference between the liquid applied to adjacent locations on the printing medium, a liquid applying condition relating to a number of times of scan for applying the liquid, and a liquid applying condition relating to complementary mask patterns used for applying the liquid in a plurality of scans, ~~one liquid applying condition out of different liquid applying conditions~~

wherein different liquid applying conditions are set for making different degrees of gloss respectively, ~~wherein the different liquid applying conditions are different in at least one of three factors of an applying time difference between the liquid applied to~~

~~adjacent locations in the area of the printing medium, a number of times of scan for applying the liquid, and a mask pattern used for applying the liquid.~~

Claim 2. (previously presented) A method as claimed in claim 1, further comprising the step of forming a layer of the liquid on the surface of the printing medium by employing said liquid applying step, said layer forming step controlling a level of integrating a plurality of the liquid, which are applied for forming the layer, to vary the degree of gloss.

Claim 3. (withdrawn).A print producing method of producing a print including parts which are different in a degree of gloss to each other, said method comprising the step of: applying a predetermined liquid droplet reacting with a surface of a printing medium to the surface of said printing medium, wherein said predetermined liquid droplet applying step applies the predetermined liquid so that a plurality of the parts different in the degree of gloss exist on the surface of the printing medium.

Claim 4. (previously presented) A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein a haze of the printing medium is also varied among a plurality of levels in connection with forming a layer with the liquid applied.

Claim 5. (previously presented) A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the liquid contains an aqueous medium and a polymer having the structure formulated by the general formula shown below, and the polymer is insolubilized when the liquid is applied

to the printing medium so that the liquid is insolubilized on the surface of the printing medium,

formula - COOA

in this formula, "A" denotes alkali metal, amine, or organic amine.

Claim 6. (currently amended) A method as claimed in claim [[1]] 5, wherein the surface of the printing medium has a pH contributing to insolubilize the polymer.

Claim 7. (currently amended) A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein an ink receiving layer of the printing medium ~~contain~~ contains polyvalent metal ions of such a concentration as insolubilizes the polymer.

Claim 8. (previously presented) A method as claimed in claim 2, wherein said layer forming step controls application of the plurality of liquid so that the plurality of liquid are dividedly applied at intervals, each of which has a time equal to or longer than a predetermined time, to control the level of integrating the plurality of the liquid.

Claim 9. (previously presented) A method as claimed in claim 2, wherein said layer forming step varies the number of the liquid applied adjacently to each other within a predetermined time to control the level of integrating the plurality of the liquid.

Claim 10. (previously presented) A method as claimed in claim 2, wherein said layer forming step forms a first layer by application of the liquid to an area of the printing medium to which the layer is to be formed and applies the plurality of liquid on the first layer to control the level of integrating the plurality of the liquid.

Claim 11. (currently amended) A method as claimed in claim 2, wherein said layer forming step forms a first layer by application of the liquid to all [[area]] areas of the printing medium and applies the plurality of the liquid on the first layer to control the level of integrating the plurality of the liquid.

Claim 12. (previously presented) A method as claimed in claim 2, wherein said layer forming step controls application of the plurality of the liquid so that the plurality of the liquid varies in size among a plurality of sizes to control the level of integrating the plurality of the liquid.

Claim 13. (previously presented) A method as claimed in claim 8, wherein said layer forming step varies applying rates of respective divided liquid to control the level of integrating the plurality of the liquid.

Claim 14. (currently amended) A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein said liquid applying step applies the liquid so that [[the]] a plurality of parts different in the degree of gloss are formed on the same printing medium.

Claim 15. (withdrawn). A print producing method of producing a print including parts which are different in a degree of gloss to each other, said method comprising the step of:

applying a predetermined liquid droplet reacting with a surface of a printing medium to said printing medium so that a level of integrating the plurality of the predetermined liquid droplets are differentiated to form the plurality of parts different in the degree of gloss,

wherein the plurality of parts different in the level of integration have different degree of gloss respectively.

16. **(withdrawn)** A print producing method of producing a print including parts which are different in a degree of gloss to each other, said method comprising the step of:

applying ink to a printing medium; and

applying a predetermined liquid droplet to a printing medium so that a condition of the surface of the printing medium are differentiated to form the plurality of parts different in the surface condition,

wherein the plurality of parts different in the surface condition have different degree of gloss respectively.

Claim 17. (previously presented) A method as claimed in claim 1, said layer forming step is executed by ejecting the liquid from an ink jet head provided with a plurality of nozzles.

Claim 18. **(withdrawn)** A print producing method of producing a print including parts which are different in a degree of gloss to each other, said method comprising the step of:

ejecting ink to a printing medium from an ink jet head while the ink jet head is employed to scan the printing medium; and

ejecting a predetermined liquid droplet from an ink jet head to a printing medium to which ink has been ejected while the ink jet head is employed to scan the printing

medium so that the numbers of times of scan are differentiated to form the plurality of parts,

wherein the plurality of parts different in the number of scan have different degree of gloss respectively.

Claim 19. **(withdrawn)** A print producing method of producing a print with varying a degree of gloss of a printing medium, said method comprising the step of:

ejecting a predetermined liquid droplet reacting with the printing medium to said printing medium from an ink jet head while the ink jet head is employed to scan the printing medium,

wherein the number of times of scan required for ejecting the predetermined liquid droplet is varied to vary the degree of gloss.

Claim 20. **(withdrawn)** A print producing method of producing a print including parts which are different in a degree of gloss to each other, said method comprising the step of:

ejecting ink to a printing medium from an ink jet head while the ink jet head is employed to scan the printing medium; and

ejecting a predetermined liquid droplet from an ink jet head to a printing medium to which ink has been ejected while the ink jet head is employed to scan the printing medium at a plurality of times, wherein respective masks are employed to generate ejection data for the plurality of times of scan and the predetermined liquid droplet is ejected based on the ejection data generated by employing the masks, to form the parts,

wherein said predetermined liquid droplet ejecting step employs a plurality of masks different in the size of minimum processing unit and employs the plurality of masks to form a plurality of parts different in a degree of gloss, and

the plurality of parts different in the number of scan have different degree of gloss respectively.

Claim 21. **(withdrawn)** A print producing method of producing a print with varying a degree of gloss of a printing medium, said method comprising the step of:

ejecting a predetermined liquid droplet reacting with the printing medium from an ink jet head to a printing medium while the ink jet head is employed to scan the printing medium at a plurality of times, wherein respective masks are employed to generate ejection data for the plurality of times of scan and the predetermined liquid droplet is ejected based on the ejection data generated by employing the masks, to form a layer,

wherein said step of ejecting a predetermined liquid droplet varies a minimum processing unit of the mask to vary the degree of gloss.

Claim 22. **(withdrawn)** A print producing method which uses a liquid head provided with a plurality of ejection openings and ejecting a predetermined liquid to employ the liquid head for scanning a printing medium in a direction different to a direction in which the plurality of ejection openings are arranged, and to eject the predetermined liquid from the liquid head to the printing medium to form a layer, so that a print is produced with varying a degree of gloss,

wherein respective ejection amounts of ejection openings are varied in accordance with positions in the arranging direction of the plurality of ejection openings.

Claim 23. **(withdrawn)** A method as claimed in claim 22, wherein a varying rate of the ejection amount in accordance with the position is differentiated in accordance with a range of ejection openings employed in one scanning.

Claim 24. **(withdrawn)** A method as claimed in claim 22, wherein areas of the printing medium to which the predetermined liquid is centered are determined and the ejection amount of the plurality of ejection openings corresponding to the area is varied for each area.

Claim 25. **(withdrawn)** A method as claimed in claim 22, wherein the respective ejection amounts of ejection openings are varied so that the closer to the end position of the arrangement the ejection opening is, the greater the ejection amount is.

Claim 26. **(withdrawn)** A method as claimed in claim 25, wherein the respective ejection amounts of ejection openings are varied so that the closer to the center position of the arrangement the ejection opening is, the smaller the ejection amount is.

Claim 27. **(withdrawn)** A print producing apparatus for producing a print with varying a degree of gloss of a printing medium, said apparatus comprising:

layer forming means for applying a liquid to form a layer,

wherein the formation of the layer causes the degree of gloss to be varied among a plurality of levels.

Claim 28. **(withdrawn)** A print producing apparatus for producing a print with varying a degree of gloss of a printing medium, said apparatus comprising:

layer forming means for applying a liquid to form a layer,

wherein said layer forming means is means for forming the layer by applying a predetermined liquid droplet, and said means controls a level of integrating a plurality of the predetermined liquid droplets, which are applied for forming the layer, to vary the degree of gloss.

Claim 29. **(withdrawn)** A print producing apparatus for producing a print with varying a degree of gloss of a printing medium, said apparatus comprising:

layer forming means for ejecting a predetermined liquid droplet to the printing medium from an ink jet head while the ink jet head is employed to scan the printing medium to form a layer on the printing medium,

wherein the number of times of scan required for forming the layer is varied to vary the degree of gloss.

Claim 30. **(withdrawn)** A print producing apparatus which uses a liquid head provided with a plurality of ejection openings and ejecting a predetermined liquid to employ the liquid head for scanning a printing medium in a direction different to a direction in which the plurality of ejection openings are arranged, and to eject the predetermined liquid from the liquid head to the printing medium to form a layer, so that a print is produced with varying a degree of gloss,

wherein respective ejection amounts of ejection openings are varied in accordance with positions in the arranging direction of the plurality of ejection openings.

Claim 31. (currently amended) An apparatus for producing a print product by applying ink on a printing medium, comprising:

a liquid applying unit which applies ~~means for applying,~~ to the printing medium, a liquid containing an aqueous medium and a polymer ~~for varying the degree of gloss on the printing medium;~~

a scanning device which relatively scans ~~means for relatively scanning~~ the liquid applying ~~[[means]]~~ unit to the printing medium;

a controller which controls controlling ~~means for controlling~~ said liquid applying unit ~~[[means]]~~ so that, in the scan, the liquid is applied to ~~an area on~~ the printing medium to which the ink has been applied, based on at least one of a liquid applying condition relating to an applying time difference between the liquid applied to adjacent locations, a liquid applying condition relating to a number of times of scan for applying the liquid, and a liquid applying condition relating to complementary mask patterns used for applying the liquid in a plurality of scans; and

~~changing means for changing liquid applying conditions for the area;~~

wherein said controller ~~changing means~~ changes at least one of the liquid applying conditions ~~including an applying time difference between the liquid applying to adjacent locations in the area of the printing medium, a number of times of scan for applying the~~

~~liquid, and a mask pattern used for applying the liquid~~ so as to realize different degree of gloss.

Claim 32. (new) A print producing method of producing a print that is made of a printing medium on which ink is applied, said method comprising the steps of:

applying ink to the printing medium by means of ink applying means while scanning the ink applying means relatively to the printing medium;

applying a liquid for changing a degree of gloss by means of liquid applying means on the printing medium to which the ink has been applied, while scanning the liquid applying means relatively to the printing medium; and

setting a liquid applying condition relating to an applying time difference between the liquid applied to adjacent locations on the printing medium,

wherein different liquid applying conditions are set for making different degrees of gloss respectively.

Claim 33. (new) A print producing method of producing a print that is made of a printing medium on which ink is applied, said method comprising the steps of:

applying ink to the printing medium by means of ink applying means while scanning the ink applying means relatively to the printing medium;

applying a liquid for changing a degree of gloss by means of liquid applying means on the printing medium to which the ink has been applied, while scanning the liquid applying means relatively to the printing medium; and

setting a liquid applying condition relating to a number of times of scan for applying the liquid,

wherein different liquid applying conditions are set for making different degrees of gloss respectively.

Claim 34. (new) A print producing method of producing a print that is made of a printing medium on which ink is applied, said method comprising the steps of:

applying ink to the printing medium by means of ink applying means while scanning the ink applying means relatively to the printing medium;

applying a liquid for changing a degree of gloss by means of liquid applying means on the printing medium to which the ink has been applied, while scanning the liquid applying means relatively to the printing medium; and

setting a liquid applying condition relating to complementary mask patterns used for applying the liquid in a plurality of scans,

wherein different liquid applying conditions are set for making different degrees of gloss respectively.